SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Support for the amendment to claims 1 and 3 is found on page 8, lines 12-18 of the specification. Support for claims 5 and 13 is found on page 4, lines 8-11. Support for claims 6 and 14 is found on page 4, lines 11-14 of the specification. Support for claims 7 and 15 is found on page 4, lines 17-19 of the specification. Support for claims 8 and 16 is found on page 5, lines 2-4 of the specification. Support for claims 9 and 17 is found on page 6, lines 13-17 of the specification. Support for claims 10 and 18 is found on page 9, lines 8-10 of the specification. Support for claims 11 and 19 is found on page 9, lines 4-16 of the specification. Support for claims 12 and 20 is found on page 4, lines 22-25 of the specification. No new matter would be added to this application by entry of this amendment.

Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-20 will now be active in this application.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

The claimed invention is directed to a process for preparing a cleansing composition and a cleansing composition.

Applicant wishes to thank examiner Boyer for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their U.S. representative on October 16, 2006. At that time, Applicant's U.S. representative argued that the claimed process deposits a molten ingredient (B) on a surface of ingredient (A) resulting in a cleansing composition having excellent pearlescence stability and long-term storage stability. Applicant further noted that none of the cited prior art of record uses a molten ingredient (B). The following is intended to expand upon the discussion with the examiner.

Cleansing compositions having a pearlescence have gained popularity based on their provision of a luxurious impression in use. Conventional pearlescence can sometimes run into difficulties in providing a pearly appearance, especially at acidic pH and complexity of

preparation. Accordingly, a pearlescent composition which is easy to prepare and is stable is sought.

The claimed invention addresses this problem by providing a method for preparing a cleaning composition in which a molten ingredient (B) is deposited on a surface of ingredient (A). Such a process is no where disclosed nor suggested in the prior art of record.

The rejections of claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Horiuchi et al., U.S. 4,486,334, of claims 3 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over Decoster, U.S. 6,294,160 and of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a), or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Decoster, U.S. 6,294,160 in view of Miyajima et al., U.S. 6,417,146 are respectfully traversed.

None of the cited prior art of record discloses or suggests a process in which molten ethylene glycol monoalkylate and/or ethylene glycol dialkylate having fatty acids having carbon atoms of 18 or greater accounting for 70 wt.% or more of the fatty acids (ingredient (B)) is caused to be deposited on a surface of an ethylene glycol monoalkylate and/or ethylene glycol dialkylate in which fatty acids having carbon numbers of 18 or greater account for less than 70 wt.% of the constituent fatty acids (ingredient (A)).

Horiuchi et al. describes a process in which molecules of solubilized pearlescent agent are confined within the hydrophobic regions of micelles, followed by an *in situ* in crystallization by cooling so that the association state of the micelles is kept substantially unchanged throughout the whole course of crystallization. There is no disclose or suggestion of a molten ingredient (B). Moreover, such a process would not result in a pearlescence having the same structure as one prepared by deposition molten ingredient (B) on a surface of a suspension of ingredient (A).

Decoster describes in the example at column 6, a shampoo composition comprising ethylene glycol distearate and dipalmitate. There is no disclosure or suggestion of a molten

ingredient (B) being deposited on a surface of a suspension ingredient (A). Moreover, such a process would not result in a pearlescence having the same structure as one prepared by deposition molten ingredient (B) on a surface of a suspension of ingredient (A).

Miyajima et al. describes a method in which the ingredients are heated together to 80°C, allowing the ingredients to melt, and then cooling the melt to 30°C with stirring (column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 2). There is no disclosure or suggestion of a method in which molten ingredient (B) is caused to deposit on a surface of ingredient (A). Moreover, such a process would not result in a pearlescence having the same structure as one prepared by deposition molten ingredient (B) on a surface of a suspension of ingredient (A).

In contrast, the claimed invention is directed to a process for preparing a cleansing composition in which molten ingredient (B) is caused to deposit on a surface of a suspension of ingredient (A). Applicant notes the claims have been amended to recite that ingredient (B) is deposited on a surface of ingredient (A). As the cited prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest a process in which a molten ingredient (B) is caused to be deposited on a surface of a suspension of ingredient (A), the claimed invention is clearly neither anticipated nor rendered obvious from these references and accordingly withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph has been obviated by appropriate amendment.

Applicant has now amended the claims to recite that ingredient (B) is deposited on a surface of ingredient (A). Such an amendment is not a narrowing of the claims for the purposes of patentability as applicant has merely clarified what was implicit to the previous recitation of "to deposit". In view of applicant's amendment, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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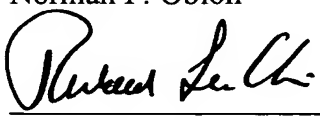
Norman F. Oblon



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